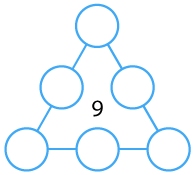
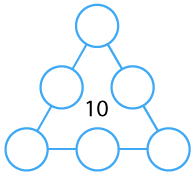
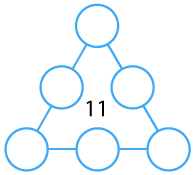
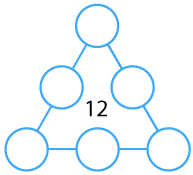
Arrange the numbers 1,2,3,4,5, 6 in each set of circles below.

The sum of each side of the triangle should equal the number in the centre of the triangular shape.

http://nrich.maths.org/content/01/02/letme1/spacer.gif

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 Once you've had a chance to think about it, see below how three different pupils began working on the task.

 Dan said:

"I used counters which had 1 to 6 on them.

I put the counters in a triangle in any old way, and then I added up the sides.

Then I moved the counters around to try and get the right total on each side."

 Emma said: "I noticed that three of the numbers are odd (1, 3and 5) and three of the numbers are even (2, 4 and 6). I thought this might help.

I know that 9 is an odd number so it can be made using odd + odd + odd or using even + even + odd."

Farah said: "If I want a small total on each side, I'll need small numbers in the corners of the triangle."

 Can you take each of these starting ideas and develop it into a solution?